





## INTIMATIONS

## WANTED.

EUROPEAN LADY, resident or daily, to look after 2 children of 7 and 8 years.

Apply—  
Mrs. GALE,  
109 The Peak.

Hongkong, Mar. 28, 1918. 293

## WAR CHARITIES COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of the War Charities General Committee, which the British Community is invited to attend, will be held at 5.30 p.m. on MONDAY, 8th April, 1918, in the Chamber of Commerce Room, City Hall. His Excellency the Governor will preside.

## BUSINESS:

1. To receive the report of the Executive Committee.
  2. To add further members to the General Committee.
  3. To invite and discuss suggestions.
- The election of an Executive Committee by the General Committee will take place after the meeting.
- E. R. HALLIFAX,  
Hon. Secretary,  
War Charities Committee.  
Hongkong, April 3, 1918. 297

## THE DAIRY FARM CO., LTD.

APPLICATION has been made to the Directors of this Company to issue to WALTER DOUGLAS GRAHAM of Hongkong (deceased) a Duplicate Certificate of Sixty Shares in the Company or other Certificate or Certificates to lie thereon upon the statement that the Original Certificate No. 1909 for shares numbered 2875/2884 and dated 11th January 1909, has been LOST or DESTROYED. AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that if within 30 days from the date hereof no claims or representation in respect of such Original Certificate is made to the Directors they will proceed to deal with such application for a Certificate.

M. MANUK,  
Secretary.

Dated 4th day of April, 1918. 298

## NOTICE

HAVING RESUMED charge of my business carried on under the style of Messrs. S. C. ISMAIL & CO., I the undersigned, hereby give notice that from this date all Cheques on Bankers, Contractors and other matters in connection with the business of the Firm will be SIGNED by me.

S. C. ISMAIL.

Hongkong, April 3, 1918. 291

## TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

I HAVE THIS DAY RESUMED Business as a SOLICITOR and NOTARY PUBLIC under my former Firm Name of GOLDING and PHILLIPS at No. 7 Queen's Road Central (top floor).

PHILIP W. GOLDING.

Hongkong, April 2, 1918. 283

## DAIRY FARM NEWS.

SAUSAGES.  
A Variety to suit all Tastes.  
OXFORD SAUSAGES.  
CAMBRIDGE  
PORK  
BEEF  
LIVER  
POSSONNE, HEAD CHEESE.  
BLACK PUDDING.  
WHITE  
do. do. do.

## KING EDWARD HOTEL

Central Location  
All Electric Trains Pass Entrance.  
Electric Lifts, Fans and Lighting.  
European Baths and Sanitary Fittings.  
Hot and Cold Water System throughout.  
Best of Food and Service.

Telephone 373  
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
"VICTORIA," J. WITCHELL,  
Manager.

## MARTIN'S

## APIOL STEEL

## PILLS

## MARTIN'S

## APIOL STEEL

## PILLS

## FRENCH LESSONS

G. MOUSSION.

15, Morrison Hill Road.

## LESSONS IN CHINESE.

MR. LI HON FAN, a Chinese graduate turned in Hongkong, has been a teacher to European students and has a good knowledge of Chinese language. He has a good knowledge of Mandarin and Cantonese. He is also a good knowledge of English and French. He is a native of China and has lived in Hongkong for many years. He is a native of China and has lived in Hongkong for many years. He is a native of China and has lived in Hongkong for many years.

## INTIMATIONS

## BILLIARD CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE COLONY.

To be played at the  
VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB.

TO-DAY (Saturday), 6th

To begin Sharp at 8 p.m.

Between GR. J. R. LORD

and SOT. PITT.

1,000 up.

Admission ... .. \$2.00

Members ... .. 1.00

Soldiers & Sailors ... .. 50 cts.

Reserved Seats ... .. \$3.00

Members, Soldiers & Sailors \$2.00

Booking at:  
VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB.

302

## ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.

## ORGAN RECITAL.

## MONDAY, 6 p.m.

## VOCALIST:

MRS. MURIEL.

299

## MARATHON RACE.

OPEN TO ALL SERVICES, UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES, SCHOOLS and the PUBLIC generally.

STATUE SQUARE (Law Courts) to SHAUKWAN and BACK.

Distance about 10 miles.

SATURDAY, April 13th, 1918.

Starting at 5 p.m.

Prizes according to number of Entries.

Conditions:—Go as you please. No stopping.

Minimum: clothing, singlet and shorts.

Entrance fee One Dollar, to be sent with name and rank (if any) to—

Staff Inspector J. C. WILDIN,

Hongkong Police Reserve Headquarters,

Princes Buildings, Ice House Street.

Entries close on Saturday, April 6th.

Hongkong, March 23, 1918. 293

## SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE, HONGKONG.

St. George's Day, April 23rd, 1918.

## THEATRE ROYAL

## "THE WITNESS FOR THE DEFENCE"

A Play in Four Acts

by A. E. W. MASON.

## AUCTION OF DRESS CIRCLE SEATS

will take place at the

Hongkong Hotel, Tuesday, April 16th,

at Noon.

By H. P. WATTS, Esq.

Englishmen requested to attend. 301

## "REGAL" RECORDS.

7281 A Perfect Day ... .. Tenor

7282 Somewhere a Voice ... .. Duet

7318 When You come Home ... .. Tenor

7319 In an Old-Fashioned Town ... ..

7320 I know a lovely Garden ... ..

7321 Island of Dreams ... ..

7322 Because ... ..

7323 An Evening Song ... ..

7324 British Boys ... ..

7325 God keep you Safe ... ..

THE ANDERSON MUSIC CO., LTD.

Tel. 1231

## METALS

of all kinds, especially for shipbuilding and engineering works. Largest and best assorted stock in the Colony.

## SINGON &amp; CO.

(ESTABLISHED A.D. 1880).

HING LUNG ST. Phone 516

## TANG YUK DISTRICT, successor of the late SIEN TING.

14, D'ARCY STREET.

TERMS VERY MODERATE.

Consultation Free.

300

# WILLS' "CAPSTAN NAVY CUT" CIGARETTES.

Fresh Stocks of  
**MAGNUM SIZE**  
"CAPSTAN NAVY CUT" CIGARETTES  
HAVE ARRIVED IN THE COLONY AND  
ARE NOW ON SALE AT ALL  
TOBACCONISTS.

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS ISSUED BY  
BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO CO., LTD.

## THE RECENT FRAUDS IN SHANGHAI.

## JUDGMENT IN OLD DOCK SHARE CASE.

Judgment was delivered in R. M. Supreme Court at Shanghai in the case arising out of stolen Dock Company shares.

The applicant was Mr. Olof Thorsen, who, by his counsel, moved the Court to restore to him to the Register of members of the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd., in respect of certain shares stolen from the Bank's safe and sold.

His Honour Judge Sir Haviland de Saumarez was on the bench. Mr. D. McNell appeared for Mr. Thorsen, Mr. A. C. Platt for the Dock Co., Mr. A. P. White-Cooper for Mr. A. L. Anderson and Mr. E. K. Mr. G. H. Wright for Mr. G. Marshall, whilst Mr. G. H. Wright watched the case on behalf of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

JUDGMENT.

His Lordship said:—

"This is a motion to rectify the register of the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Company, Limited, by entering the name of the applicant thereon as the owner of 225 shares standing at present in the names of Mr. Anderson, Mr. Marshall and Mr. Mei Kee.

"The material circumstances are very short. The applicant, Mr. Thorsen, was the owner of these 225 shares and he deposited them with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank with a blank transfer and had the bank execute a security for an advance and for future advances.

"The bank never filled in its name as transferee. The documents were fraudulently removed from the custody of the bank and the shares were sold to the three gentlemen mentioned, who got them transferred into their names in the books of the company. Their answer to Mr. Thorsen's claim is that he is estopped from saying that he is the owner of the shares by the fact that he executed a blank transfer of the shares to the bank and left it in its control. They rely on the cases of The Colonial Bank v. Cady and Fry v. Smellie.

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# WATSON'S FORMAZONE

(REGISTERED)

A Refreshing, Invigorating and Palatable Drink.  
Particularly suited for Tennis, Shooting and Bathing Parties.

Pints \$1.20 Per Doz.  
Splits 70 Cts. " "

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.  
TELEPHONE No. 616.

## To-day's Advertisements

FRENCH CONVENT SCHOOL.  
CAUSEWAY BAY.

SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON MONDAY,  
8th at 8.30.  
Hongkong, April 6, 1918. 303

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,  
(FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

## TUESDAY,

the 8th April, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.,  
at their Sales Rooms, No. 3,  
Des Vaux Road, Corner of  
Ice House Street.

One pair PRISMATIC BINOCULARS  
10 x  
Tennis—As usual.

HUGHES & HUGHES,  
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, April 6, 1918. 304

## THE CALENDAR.

### MEMOS FOR MONDAY.

Chinese Customs Holiday.  
5.30 p.m.—Meeting of War Charities  
Committee to which the British  
Community is invited.  
6 p.m.—Organ Recital at St. John's  
Cathedral.

### GENERAL MEMORANDA.

TUESDAY, April 9—  
2.30 p.m.—Furniture Sale at Messrs.  
Hughes & Hughes.  
THURSDAY, April 11—  
All Gifts for the Tombola to be sent in  
by this date.  
SATURDAY, April 13—  
3 p.m.—Marathon Race.  
TUESDAY, April 23—  
St. George's Day Celebrations.

## THIS WEEK'S OVERLAND CHINA MAIL

THE WEEKLY EDITION OF THE  
"CHINA MAIL."

CONTAINS ALL THE NEWS  
OF THE WEEK.  
THE WEEK'S REPORTS OF THE  
TRAGEDY INQUIRY.

PRICE 25 cts. (cash) per Copy

### THE "CHINA MAIL"

#### NOTICE.

Communications relating to news should  
be addressed to THE EDITOR.  
Contributors must forward their  
names and addresses with any communication  
addressed to the Editor, not necessarily  
for publication but as evidence of good  
faith.

All matter for publication should be  
written on one side of the paper only.

Letters relating to business should be  
addressed to THE MANAGER.  
Rate of subscription to "China Mail" is  
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cents per month.

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## The China Mail.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, April 6, 1918.

### THE SITUATION IN CHINA.

It has been manifest from the very beginning of the present warfare in China that no settlement is to be hoped for which is not based upon compromise. This internecine strife has been going on now for nine months and, from all that we can gather, the forces put into the field by both protagonists—conveniently styled the North and the South—continue to grow. Many efforts have been made to negotiate a settlement but none have been attended with the slightest success. We have been repeatedly told what the aims of the South are. Mr. Wu Ting Fang, the veteran statesman and one of the most prominent among the founders of the so-called Republican régime in China, has told the world that the aim of the war is to establish the authority of the Law in China, and the view he puts forward of the attitude of the Government, which holds the power at Peking is that "They know no law save their own interest, they acknowledge no authority save force. The highest institutions in the land—Constitution, Parliament, President—are nothing to them. They treat the Constitution as a scrap of paper; they dissolve Parliament, not only the Lower House but the Upper House as well, and propose to assemble a new one at their own pleasure; they force one President to vacate office and reduce another to the position of an impotent figure-head." In a general way these assertions are unanswerable. The only answer it is possible to return is that the National Assembly, which was set up at Peking under the Constitution demonstrated its incapacity to discharge the duties imposed upon it by the Constitution. Mr. Wu Ting Fang meets such a contention with the observation that:

While it is generally admitted that the existing laws for the organization and election of the National Assembly leave room for improvement, yet it is not for a few militarists to make and amend the fundamental laws of the country but for the properly constituted authority to do so, which is the National Assembly. In fact, the National Assembly itself was in the very act of changing these laws last year when it was unfortunately dissolved. Therefore, any arguments justifying the dissolution of the old Parliament and the organization of a new one on the ground of the defects of the old are entirely beside the point and merely begging the question, being but a cloak to cover the design of the militarists to create a "pocket" Parliament.

We are confronted with the curious fact that the men in power at Peking proclaim their adherence to the Republican régime no less vehemently than do the Southern leaders. It was the men now at the head of affairs in Peking who suppressed the farcical attempt to restore the Manchu monarchy a year ago. They profess their wish to see a National Assembly sitting in Peking, but the communication from the Intelligence Bureau at Canton which we publish to-day tells us what the South thinks of a National Assembly which "would commend itself to the North." The whole ques-

tion, simmered down, appears to be who are to revise the law for the election of the National Assembly? There seems to be no likelihood whatever of a victory by force for either side, and the only way out is compromise. Both sides are apparently agreed that the existing laws for the election of a National Assembly stand in need of revision, and it seems to us that the first approach to compromise is by way of a conference of the protagonists in the present strife to arrive at an agreement on this question. Mr. LIANG SHIH YI has apparently taken up the task of seeking a basis of settlement and it is greatly to be hoped that he will succeed where others have failed.

### NEWS OF THE DAY.

#### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The total rainfall for the month of March in Hongkong was 1.105 inches.

Passage regulations for Russian subjects entering or passing through Hongkong are published in the Government Gazette.

Fourteen cases of cerebro-spinal fever and nine deaths were notified yesterday in the Colony. All were Chinese cases.

Exchange opened at 3s. 0½d. on demand this morning, which represents a drop of one-eighth from yesterday's opening rate.

Acting on information received, the Police made a haul of 175 lbs. of loose opium, which was discovered in the afterhold of the s.s. *Van Waverick* on the 1st inst.

The T. K. K. "Seiyō Maru" and "Patria Maru" have been requisitioned by the Japanese Government and the "Nippon Maru" is being transferred to the South American Line service to take the schedule of the "Seiyō Maru."

We are informed by Staff Inspector Wildis, H.K.P.R., who is organizing the forthcoming Marathon Race, that the South China Morning Post, Limited, have undertaken to present a cup for the winner.

A roll of 62 midwives certified under the Midwives Ordinances published in the current issue of the *Government Gazette*. The list includes the names of three Europeans, one Portuguese and three Japanese, the rest being Chinese.

In connection with the Road Development Scheme at Sham Shui Po, Sir William Rees Davies, K.C., Chief Justice, Mr. C. H. Gale and Mr. Tsang Kam-lam arbitrated this morning, with regard to the question of compensation for the Government resumption of Lot No. 2,309. The lessee was instructed to negotiate with his tenants.

### SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

The engagement is announced between Frank Stanley Morgan, Captain, Yeomany and Imperial Camel Corps, of Herberts Lodge, Bishopstone, Glamorgan, son of the late F. A. Morgan, Commissioner of Chinese Maritime Customs, and Gladys Joan, youngest daughter of Lieut Colonel Henry M. A. Wardle, late 18th Hussars, Chief Constable of Kent Gallants, East Farleigh, Kent.

The Shanghai papers announce with much regret the death, from cerebro-spinal meningitis, of Mrs. Edith Mildred Jory, the wife of Mr. Henry Jory, chief officer in the China Merchants Steam Navigation Co. The deceased lady, who had only been ill a few days, was the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Howell, of the China Inland Mission. She had been married about three months, previous to which she was one of the most popular nurses at the Victoria Nursing Home, in which institution she passed away.

The death is announced on the 4th inst. of Captain J. McGilivray, an old and valued servant of the Glen Line, Ltd., who was well known and greatly respected in the Far East, where he had a large circle of friends. Captain McGilivray joined the Glen Line, Ltd., (Messrs. McGregor, Gow and Co.) in 1884, and 10 years later was promoted to a command, and thereafter commanded some of the finest ships in the service until he was forced to retire two years ago on account of ill-health. Captain McGilivray, who was 63 years of age, leaves a widow and two daughters.

### THE SITUATION IN CHINA. ANOTHER CONSTITUTIONALIST PRONOUNCEMENT.

The Intelligence Bureau of Canton sends us the following statement:—

The Constitutionalists in the South-West will not yield to militarism. The Provisional Constitution of China is the organic act which has created the Republican form of Government in which is provided the legislative as well as executive department of government in this country. Now the Northern Military Governors who happened to be placed in military power are trying to ignore the legislative department by forcing the unarmed representatives of the citizens, the members of the National Assembly, to submit to their will and to create an impression that the Constitutionalists are unwilling to negotiate for peace. The Constitutionalists want to know where there is room for peace? Shall they yield to force and allow the supreme law of the land to be violated at will by all those who desire to usurp power, or shall they stand by the law?

The present "National Council" in Peking is composed of delegates of provinces whose Military Governors are conspiring against a Republican form of Government. The members are picked by their chiefs to express their wills. Legally they have no standing. Of course, this "Council" will be requested by the militarists of the North to act as the National Assembly, but every impartial person, foreign as well as native, can imagine how ridiculous it is for one department of government to create organs to replace those already provided for in the supreme law of the land.

The National Assembly of the Republic of China now in Extraordinary Session in Canton has, in accordance with Article 7 of the Law governing Parliament, called for the regular meeting of this body on June 12, at Canton. The Constitutional provinces will delay the expenses of this meeting. From reports coming in, most members will arrive in Canton early in May. The National Assembly has repudiated all unlawful acts done by the Peking Government and will disregard all its future illegal and unlawful acts. It has warned all foreign Governments and citizens against their making contacts with the Peking Government, as the Republic of China, after the present civil war, does not intend to assume any responsibility or burden created by the present Peking Government without consent or approval of the National Assembly in accordance with the Provisional Constitution and other laws of the country.

### ORGAN RECITAL AT THE CATHEDRAL.

The programme of the Organ Recital by Mr. Denman Fuller, F.R.C.O., L.R.A.M., at St. John's Cathedral on Monday next at 6 p.m. when Mrs. Muriel will be the vocalist, will be as follows:—  
1.—Choral Song and Fugue... Wesley  
2.—The Credo... E. Horstman  
3.—Allegro Appassionato... Arthur Barclay  
4.—A Bide with me... S. Liddle  
5.—Agnus Dei... Smart  
6.—Barcarole... Sterndale Bennett  
7.—God shall wipe away all tears... Sullivan  
8.—The Mass... E. Horstman  
9.—Out of the East... Denman Fuller  
10.—Military March... E. Elgar  
During the singing of the Hymn a collection will be made in aid of the Organ Fund.

### DEATH OF MR. A. S. ANTON.

We regret to learn of the death at the Shanghai General Hospital, last week, of Mr. A. S. Anton of local trouble. The "N.C. Daily News" says:—The deceased was 43 years of age, born in Hongkong. His early business career was spent with the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank at Lyons, Hongkong and Japan. He left the bank some years ago and joined Messrs. Benjamin A. Fife as a Stock Exchange broker, and becoming secretary to the latter institution. In earlier years Mr. Anton was a very keen cricketer and a successful batsman, having taken part in many interport matches and at different times represented Hongkong, Shanghai and Japan. The deceased had been in indifferent health for some time. About a month ago it was found necessary that he should go to hospital, but, however, recovered somewhat, and was able to leave, but a week ago it was found that he must return.

### TOPICS OF THE DAY.

#### [BY SCRUTATOR.]

The British Community are invited to attend a meeting of the War Charities Committee at the City Hall at 5.30 p.m. on Monday next, when H.E. The Governor will preside. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that with fighting now in progress in the principal theatre of the war on an immensely larger scale than has been the case hitherto the War Charities Fund calls for correspondingly greater support. It is proposed to enlarge the present General Committee with a view, no doubt, to larger organized effort to obtain the desired support, and it will be noted that the advertised agenda contains the item: "To invite and discuss suggestions." One obvious suggestion is a systematic canvass, which the public must recognise now as being justified by the heavy demands which are likely to be made during the coming months upon the funds of all war-charity organisations which depend upon the voluntary contributions of the public. The Cigarette and Tobacco Fund which has been maintained from the beginning of the war has shown how much can be done by personal canvass.

We have only to reflect on the conditions which prevail at Home to recognise that if we cannot fight the duty rests upon us not only to save and lend all we can but to give.

It is satisfactory to see that the War Savings Association continues to command steady support, but there is little doubt that it would be much larger still, if, say, the Shanghai method of reminding the public of the Association's existence were followed to some extent in Hongkong. For example, here is one of the little reminders which appeared in a Shanghai paper last week:

#### ARE WE DOWNHEARTED?

Ulla, Ulla, have you heard the news!  
The Jockies he got a bloomin' little gun  
"Oo shells they say."  
Will quick make 'em  
Of Ally towns, seventy miles away.  
Don't you think, 'tis a awful clever 'un?  
It makes me so unappy that I wants to take to booze.  
Oh, Oh! Why can't we down that gun!  
Come, come, I say! You are a dismal chap!  
That we've been had by Fritz, I won't allow.  
What's known to-day,  
As the War Savings A  
Is a mighty long-range cannon, "which  
fired in Cathay,  
Sends silver bullets flying to the  
European coast."  
TEN THOUSAND miles in transit  
across Eurasia's map.  
Oh, oh! Give us some bullets now!

And what about those "Superfluities" for the Tombola! Already a good collection has been obtained, but more are wanted. War Bond Drawing Tickets will be very acceptable, the advertisement says—but let the reader note that they are wanted before the drawing, and not afterwards. By the way, won't our streets look pretty on St. George's Day with the coloured paper, of thousands of discarded spills scattered over them!

At last the weather looks like breaking. Is it generally realised that in the last five months we have had a total of less than three inches of rain! The average yearly rainfall in Hongkong is about 80 inches, so that if we are to get anything like our usual quota this year, we must expect an abnormally wet summer.

Thanks to the enlargement of the waterworks we have been in no danger of a water famine. The water return for April 1st shows that there were 694.94 millions of gallons of water in storage on the island, as compared with 160.77 millions of gallons on the same date last year. In other words, there is about four months' supply in storage.

Is there any connection between the drought and the prevalence of cerebro-spinal fever? The question is suggested by the fact that after that shower of rain on Good Friday evening there was an appreciable drop in the daily record of cases. The people of North China will tell us that the dust theory is all moonshine, for are they not smothered in dust for weeks on end at certain seasons of the year? It is worth noting that the disease has made its appearance at Shanghai and at Hankow. There have been only a few cases apparently in those ports, and it is to be noted that they cannot be traced to any connection with the epidemic in Hongkong.

### THE ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

#### THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE.

"The Witness for the Defence," the play by A. R. W. Mason to be staged at the Theatre Royal on St. George's Day, was originally produced by the late Sir George Alexander at the St. James' Theatre in 1911, and scored an instantaneous success. The original cast included that distinguished actress, Ethel Irving as the heroine, Stella Ballantyne, which part she repeatedly sustained in her successful tour throughout Australia and South Africa. The St. James' production further included such well-known lights of the Stage as Alfred Bishop, Sydney Valentine, Leslie Faber and Lytton Lyle.

Vouchers for all seats in the Stalls and a certain number in the Dress Circle which will not be put up for auction can be obtained by Englishmen Members of the Society any day after Tuesday next, the 9th inst. Application should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Bentley, Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son, stating the number of seats required and the vouchers themselves will be interchangeable for numbered seat tickets from Messrs. Moutrie & Co., on payment of \$5 each on and after Thursday, the 18th inst. The Box Office at Messrs. Moutrie & Co. will be opened at 9 a.m. and payment for the seats is to be made to Messrs. Moutrie's when the vouchers are exchanged.

In case applications exceed the accommodation of the Theatre, the vouchers issued will necessarily be for a smaller number of seats than are applied for.

In the Dress Circle a limited reservation has been made for official guests and other seats to be sold by auction; the remainder of the Dress Circle and the whole of the Stalls will be available.

### HONGKONG ST. GEORGE'S DAY FUND.

Balance as per last statement	\$ 794
Mr. S. Baker	30
Mr. G. A. Hastings	250
"Scottish Wellwisher"	100
	\$1,174

The Committee acknowledges with thanks receipt of the above donations. Any further amounts will be gratefully received by the undersigned, c/o the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

J. H. RAMSAY,

Hon. Treasurer.

Hongkong St. George's Day Fund.

### THE MAGISTRACY.

#### CHING-MING FESTIVAL AND HILLSIDE FIRES.

Four Chinese pleaded not guilty when charged before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning with negligently setting fire to grass at Mount Davis. Lieut. Sykes, R.G.A., said he was at the Officers' Mess at Mount Davis when four distinct fires were noticed on the hillside. The soldiers hurried out and got the fire under control. Later on witness saw the defendants burning joss sticks and joss paper at one of the graves on the hillside. The bushes caught fire and witness again had to send men to put down the outbreak. Defendants were then arrested. Witness added that they "run considerable danger from these hillside fires as they had a quantity of explosives under matched covers."

Defendants said it was no concern of theirs. They only went to pay their respects to their ancestors' graves as yesterday was the Ching Ming Festival. They did not start the fire. Inspector Macdonald said there was a very big grass fire at Poldhu last night which took considerable time to control.

Mr. Wood said the defendants were very careless and fined them \$10 each.

A Griffin writes:—"A glorious opportunity to win undying fame and a people's gratitude by the outlay of a little surplus wealth is now being offered to plutocrats in the Colony with pretensions to the title of *amici humani generis*. A free public library, worthy of a large and populous British Colony like Hongkong, thoroughly well equipped is much needed. Hongkong seems to be overburdened with schools. There are indications that a large, up-to-date library will appeal to all classes of the community. The philanthropist can choose no better method of conferring a public benefit nor can better means be found of perpetuating the memory of illustrious men. To the reader, the merchant prince? It is a question which will have a well-thought-out answer after the war. The community might think of it as a suitable War Memorial."

### RACE COURSE TRAGEDY INQUIRY.

In continuation of our report of the Race Course inquiry, the following further evidence was given yesterday afternoon.

Mr. A. Denison, of Messrs. Denison, Ram and Gibbs, said he had never designed any matcheds, but he had had them erected under his own supervision. He had taken no special precaution as to the manner in which the sheds were erected, but had left the whole matter to the builder.

Do you think the contractor is the proper person to take the responsibility?—Yes, I think they know more about matched construction than we are ever likely to know.

Continuing, witness said he saw no reason why three storeyed matcheds should be unsafe. He had had scaffolding 90 feet high with stairways, and stones weighing half a ton had been taken up. The scaffolding stood for six months and during that time there was no accident.

A Chinese gentleman who was formerly a builder informed us that in his opinion three-storeyed matcheds were unsafe. Oh, well, the opinion has been expressed that we are to have three disasters, one from the earth, one from fire and one from water. The one from water did not come off.

Mr. Bowley asked the Coroner to make a note of that answer on the depositions as he regarded it as a very important point, as it affected the nerves of people and the nerves of people were very important in case of panic.

Do you seriously want me to record it?—Yes, I am going to base an argument on it.

The Coroner: If you are seriously interested in that point, I would like to mention that I have had sent me a letter through the Secretary of Chinese Affairs to the effect that the cause of the disaster has been attributed to certain quarrying operations which occurred at a spot above Bowen Road from which I understand certain occult influences work. The idea is that the disturbance of this spot by quarrying was the cause of the disaster at the race course, the Gresson street affair and any other thing that may happen.

Witness replying to Mr. Bowley said he did not think that the dry weather would affect bamboo lashings so long as there were no violent changes in humidity. Dry weather would have a tendency to weaken old iron poles but would not affect new ones. From the records it appeared that there had been no such violent changes in humidity before the race meeting as would affect the material.

This concluded the evidence and the inquiry was adjourned until Monday afternoon when Mr. Bowley and Mr. Leo d'Almeida will address the jury.

### CORONER'S INQUEST.

#### THE DEATH OF A SHIP'S OFFICER.

##### DECISION DEFERRED.

The following is the continuation of the inquiry yesterday into the death of ship's officer:—

Miss Brent giving evidence said that the deceased took two packets of powder from his pocket and gave her one. She was told that the powder was cantharidin and that it was harmless. After taking them both became very ill and medical assistance was sent for. The ship's doctor came to the house and the deceased accused him of having given him the wrong stuff. The doctor replied that it was only aspirin. Witness asked the doctor how he could account for the deceased's condition and was told that the latter had been drinking. They eventually sent for Dr. Haxton and the deceased was finally removed to the hospital.

Dr. Tong, Tong, Tong, doctor on board the *Van Waverick*, said he obtained the cantharidin in order to make a hair wash. It had been frequently asked by passengers for cantharidin hair wash and had determined to stock the drug for that purpose. The chief officer asked for two packets of the drug but witness said he had none in stock. The chief officer was not satisfied and accompanied witness to the dispensary and asked him to weigh out two powders. Witness said he must mix it with other powders and the chief officer said he did not care what the mixture was as long as he got it. Witness substituted caffeine citral in place of cantharidin, and this he weighed out to the deceased. This packet contained two grains of caffeine citral mixed with ten grains of phenacetin. Witness was of the opinion that the deceased died of heart failure brought on by excessive alcohol.

The decision was held over for a few days Mr. Dyer Ball remarking that there were several points in the evidence which he would like to consider.

### SERVES THE WHOLE FAMILY.

H.E. James of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is world-wide. It is good for the deep-seated cough of the adult, the croup and whooping cough of the children. The small bottle serves the whole family. For sale by all Chemists and Druggists.















